

Appendix B
Public meeting for Proposed Koch Addition to Fish Creek WMA
Alberton Community Center
March 22, 2018

25 members of the public attended.

FWP personnel present: Randy Arnold, Liz Bradley, Ladd Knotek, Caleb Uerling, Tyler Ramaker, Mike Thompson

Question:

Could there be a place to park off the road rather than making people park on the main roadside?

Commenter #:

1. **Ken Arledge.** I support the idea of preserving the creekside and not letting it go all private.
2. **Kit Fischer.** I support.
3. **Harvey Mead.** I oppose because of the way you've managed the woods so far--leafy spurge at Tarkio and we asked them to spray the roadside for the spurge and FWP did not. Have not done a good job managing St. John's Wort where identified. Haven't been doing a good job with the land we've got.
4. **Anonymous A.** Support. I've been envious of this ground for years because it is flat. I like it. Give me a place to park and a flat place to walk and I am good. Also, I am seeing a lot of out of state plates which should be good for the economy.
5. **Pat Sweeney.** Support. I don't see a downside and I encourage FWP to make the purchase.
6. **Anonymous B.** Support. I think this is a good project, consolidating public land and should be good for the economy.
7. **Anonymous C.** Support. I fish with small kids a lot it's hard to fish this with the stream access law alone.
8. **Roman Zylawy,** Mineral County Commissioner. I don't oppose this particular purchase but am concerned about the future purchases. Stipulations come with Pittman-Robertson [Wildlife Restoration Act, 1937]. Nothing wrong with this project on its own--glad for the FWP property tax, but there's so much public land in Mineral County. [Only] 7% private land in Mineral County--granted FWP is paying vacant land taxes, but it's not the same as if the land is being developed. I'm not necessarily nixing this particular piece of land but looking at the big picture, we're opposed to purchasing any more public land. So, Mineral County has to be opposed.

9. **Anonymous D.** Support. Best stream from Flathead to Missoula and should be added.

Name? (spoke earlier). I see in the short run what Roman says, but in the long run with the enhanced fishery and reputation, I think the fishery will generate more money from non-residents in the long run.

10. **Anonymous E.** Support. The map shows that this small area will contribute a lot in blocking up the whole. You get more revenue out of this by protecting it for the whole than by sparing one possible home site.

Name? (spoke earlier). Tourism is the third leading industry in Montana, so tourism is the future.

[Side discussion: Conversation about snowmobiling losses.]

8. **Roman Zylawy** (spoke earlier). Talked about power and this is the last piece crossing the checkerboard to prevent modern day improvements up the drainage. This is the last nail in the coffin for future power. The horse is out of the barn now and this little purchase won't make a lot of difference, but people should be aware. Want people to think about the future big picture.
11. **Hellgate Hunters & Anglers.** *[Also submitted comment #57a, Appendix A].* Support. We support and really appreciate it here and the resource.
12. **Kristie DuBois.** Support. I would support a tourist tax for Mineral County. Hope the PILT payments are restored. I like the flat spots. Appreciate Roman's comments and am sympathetic to the need to support the county.